

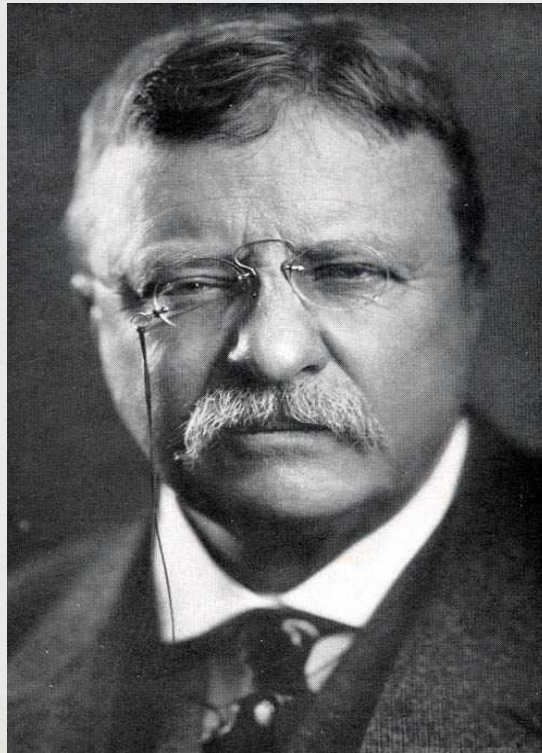
A CLEAR and PRESENT DANGER

Confronting the Invasive Species Threat

Montana Invasive Species Summit
Helena, Montana – April 12-13, 2016

Mike Ielmini
U.S. Forest Service National Forest System

“Big jobs usually go to the men
who prove their ability to
outgrow small ones!”



- Theodore Roosevelt



Addressing the Threat of Invasive Species Across the Nation



Invasive Species



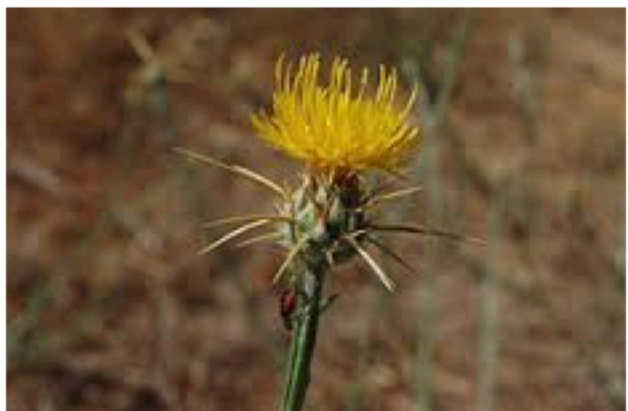
1. Exotic (Alien) to the Ecosystem

2. Harmful (Environment, Economy, Culture, or Health)

- Plants
- Pathogens
- Vertebrates
- Invertebrates
- Algae
- Fungi



Invasive Plants and Noxious Weeds



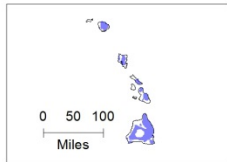
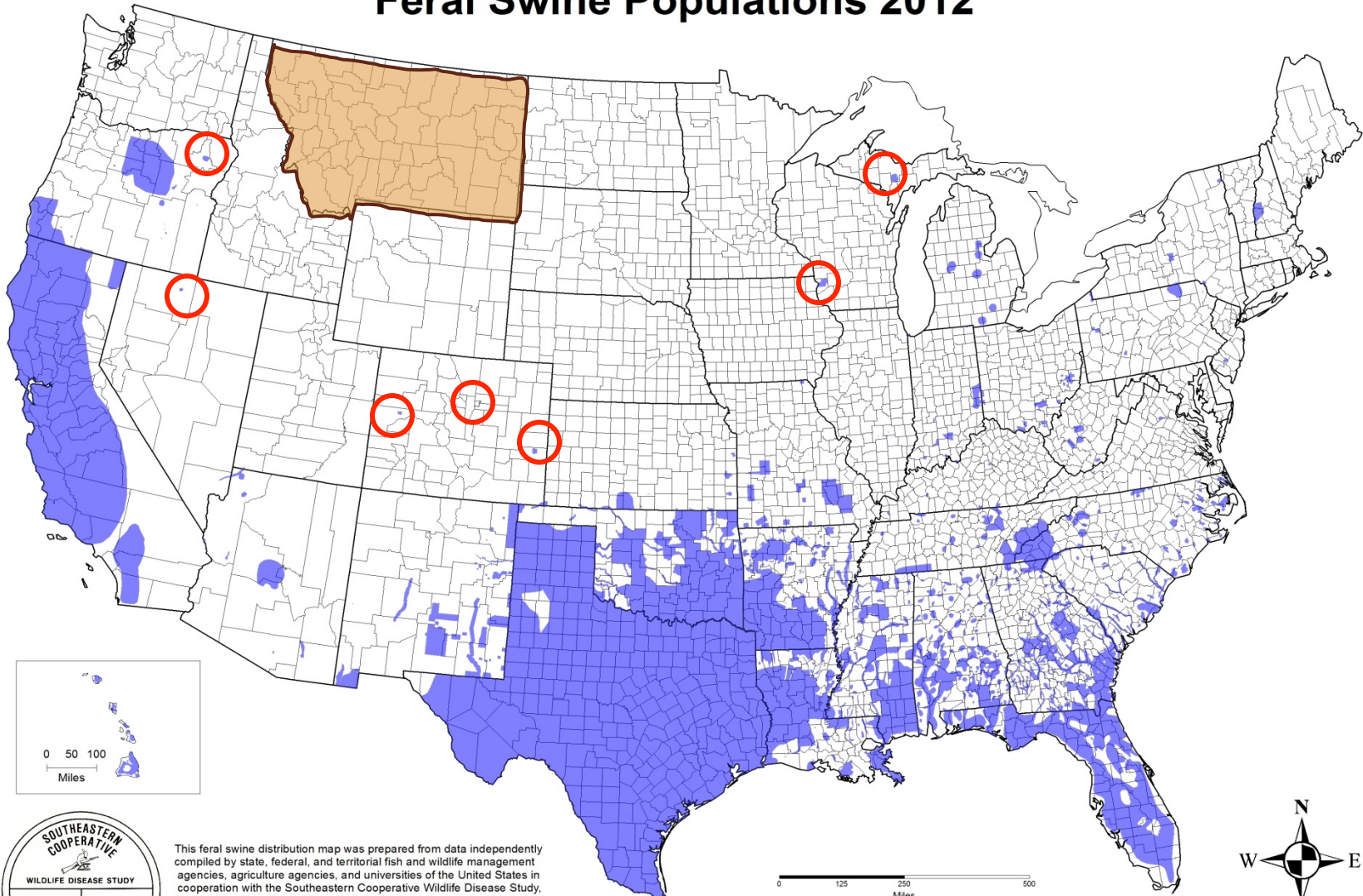
Aquatic Invasive Species



Feral Swine / Invasive Hogs



Feral Swine Populations 2012



This feral swine distribution map was prepared from data independently compiled by state, federal, and territorial fish and wildlife management agencies, agriculture agencies, and universities of the United States in cooperation with the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia. Support for this project was through Cooperative Agreement Numbers 11-9113-1156-CA and 11-9813-0032-CA, Veterinary Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

0 125 250 500
Miles

Last Updated 12/20/2012
UGA-CRMS



White Nose Syndrome Mortality





Invasive Species Threaten

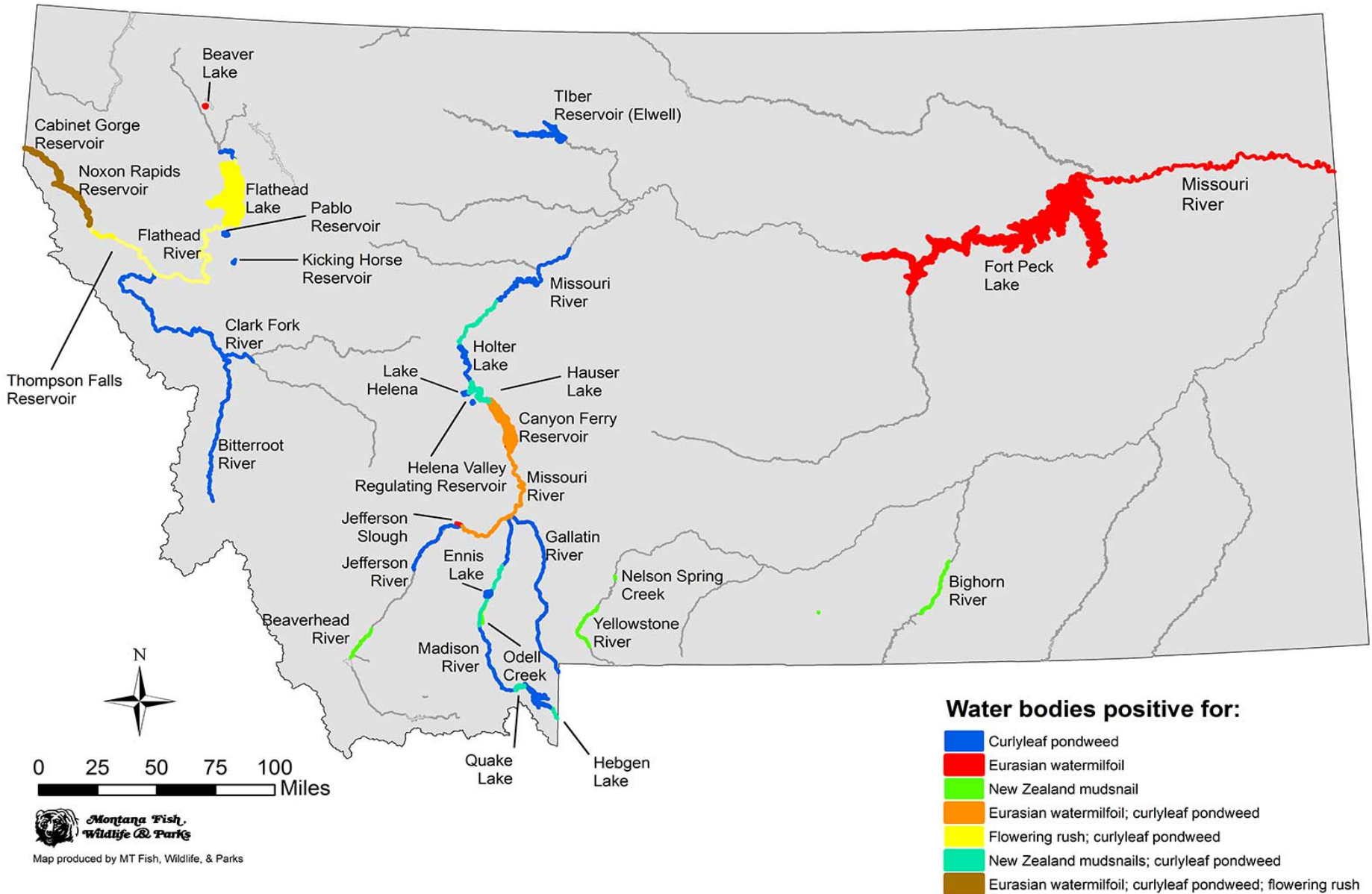
- Biodiversity
- Ecosystem Health
- Soil Stability
- Water quality
- Native Fish and Wildlife
- Recreational Values
- Human Health
- Communities
- Forestry and Agriculture
- Cultural Needs and Heritage Areas
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Aesthetics
- **The Economy**
- Lifestyles
-and much more

Greater Sage-grouse Habitat Impacts



The most significant threats to the bird's habitat are
invasive plants and wildfire

Aquatic Invasive Species Locations in Montana - 2014



“Start by doing what’s necessary;
then do what’s possible; and
suddenly you are doing the
impossible.”

- Francis of Assisi

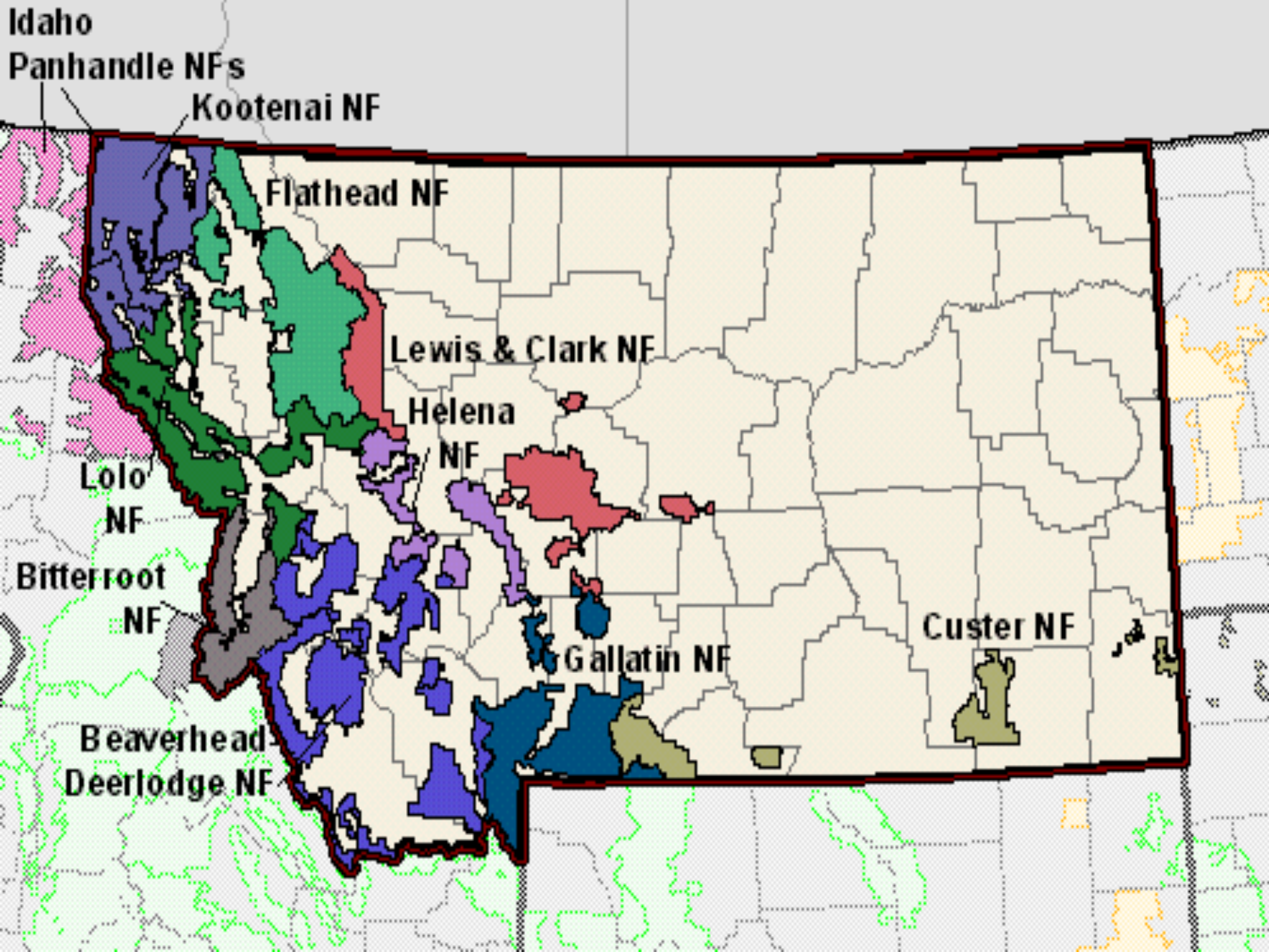


Harl

“Courage is being scared to death and saddling up anyway!”

- John Wayne





U.S. Forest Service Leadership (2001-2016)



Expanding Programs for Invasive Species Management

The National Forest System
Invasive Species
Management Program is
EXPANDING and
EVOLVING to address a
broader spectrum of aquatic
and terrestrial invasive
species threatening public
and private lands across
America





Executive Order 13112 “Invasive Species”

*President's
Priority Agenda:*

“Enhancing the Climate
Resilience of America's
Natural Resources”

Council on Climate
Preparedness and
Resilience

SAFEGUARDING AMERICA'S LANDS AND WATERS FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

A National Framework for Early Detection
and Rapid Response





National Forest System Invasive Species Management (FSM 2900)



U.S. Forest Service National Forest System (NFS) invasive species management activities across the 193-million acre National Forest System utilize collaborative and integrated approaches against a broad spectrum of aquatic and terrestrial invasive plants, algae, fungi, pathogens, vertebrates, and invertebrates.

The NFS invasive species management program is structured around four (4) integrated program elements:

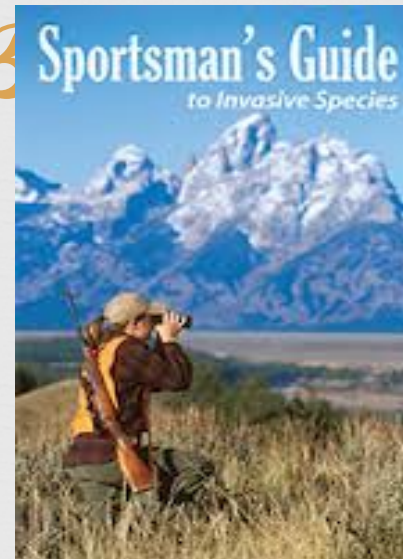
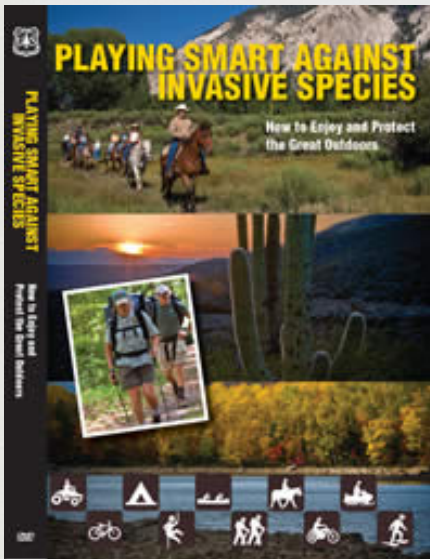
- 1) PREVENTION
- 2) EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID RESPONSE
- 3) CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT
- 4) RESTORATION

“Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress;
working together is success.”

- Henry Ford



Education and Outreach



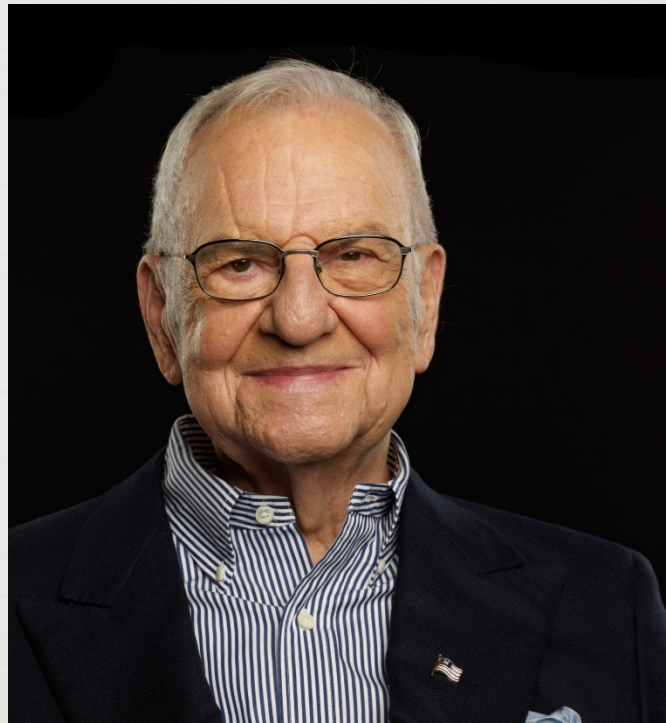


AIS Boat Inspection and Decontamination



“So what do we do? Anything, Something?
So long as we just don't sit there. If we
screw it up, start over. Try something else.
If we wait until we've satisfied all the
uncertainties, it may be too late!”

- Lee Iacocca



“A good plan violently executed now is better than a perfect plan executed next week!”

- George S. Patton



“Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts. It is no use saying, ‘We are doing our best’. You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary!”

- Winston Churchill



“Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing!”

- Theodore Roosevelt



